



Ohio Association

Today's Students. Tomorrow's Business Professionals.

2015–2016 State Officer Candidate Fact Sheet

Business Professionals of America, Ohio Association is an integral part of Business, Technology Arts division of Career-Technical Education within the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). BPA officers should be familiar with the following ODE administrative staff.

Dr. Richard A. Ross, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dr. Steve Gratz, Senior Executive Director, Career-Technical Education

Amy L. Burris, Ohio Association State Advisor

2014-2015 State Officer Team

Matthew Paluga, President; Michaela Frank, Vice President; Logan Emrick, Secretary; Brian Kurek, Treasurer; Caroline Moreno, Historian

Ohio Association Executive Board

The Ohio Executive Board sets the direction for the Association and advises the State Advisor on statewide activities.

Executive Board is comprised of the following:

Voting Members

- The Classroom Educators Advisory Council (CEAC) representatives provide input from their respective regions with the Executive Board; and in turn, share information from the state advisor and Executive Board with the advisors in their region. The state officers represent the student membership.
- One Classroom Educators Advisory Council (CEAC) representative from each of Ohio's **19 regions**.
- Six State Officers.

Ex-Officio Members

- Aaron Stewart, Interim Assistant Director of Career-Technical Education
- Amy L. Burris, State Advisor and Business, Finance and Marketing Education Program Specialist
- Dee Sturgill, Business and Marketing Consultant
- (Position Vacant), Information Technology Consultant
- Roger Fulk, State Post-Secondary Coordinator
- Sarah Crist, Leadership Development Coordinator

State-Level Leadership Conferences

The 2015 Fall Leadership Conference will be Thursday, November 19, 2015, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

The 2016 State Leadership Conference is March 17-18. Competitive events will be at the Hyatt Regency Columbus, and awards at Mershon Auditorium, The Ohio State University.

National Leadership Conference and Theme



The 2016 National Leadership Conference will be in Boston, Massachusetts, May 5-9, 2016. *This is our time* is the conference theme. The 2015-2016 National Officer Team chose the theme from the 2015 NLC top three Graphic Design Promotion presentations from each academic level. *This is our time* is also the theme for Ohio's Fall and State Leadership Conferences, as well as for the Ohio Association pin design contest.

BPA National Center

The National Center is located in Columbus, Ohio. Kirk Lawson is Executive Director. National Center staff is responsible for the following services to individual members, local chapters, and state associations.

- National BPA website www.bpa.org.
- Membership registration.
- National Leadership Conference.
- Workplaces Skills Assessment Program (competitive events).
- National Officer Elections
- National BPA Scholarships
- Torch Awards Program
- BPA Cares Program

Workplace Skills Assessment Program (WSAP)

Competitive events occur at the regional, state, and national levels. The events test a member's competency in five categories.

- Finance
- Business Administration
- Management Information Systems
- Digital Communication & Design
- Management, Marketing & Communication

Business Professionals of America's Name

Business: the field for which BPA prepares students. We educate BPA members to work efficiently in a variety of business settings.

Professionals: Students join Business Professionals of America to take advantage of a wide range of professional development opportunities.

America: symbolizes pride in the United States and its free enterprise system.

Mission Statement

The mission of Business Professionals of America is to contribute to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills.

BPA Pledge

We are met in a spirit of friendship and goodwill as we prepare for careers in a world-class workforce. We work together to develop professionalism and leadership through Business Professionals of America and pledge our loyalty to our nation.

Official BPA Colors

Navy signifies the success achieved through leadership and professionalism. **Tan** represents the bountiful fields of opportunity in America. **Red** symbolizes the friendship obtained through teamwork in our organization.

BPA Attire

- The nametag is worn on the right side of the jacket.
- The highest torch award pin earned is placed on the right lapel.
- The national merit pin is placed on the right lapel.
- The year membership pin is placed on the left lapel.
- The officer pin is placed on the right lapel above the name tag.

Special Olympics

Special Olympics is Ohio Association's and National BPA's service project. In Ohio, the school with the highest Special Olympics contribution receives a plaque at the State Leadership Conference. The region with the highest contribution will claim the Special Olympics traveling trophy for one year. Region 13 has been awarded the trophy for the past five years. Last year, the Ohio Association contributed more than \$30,000 to Ohio and local Special Olympics.

Logo and Tag Line



Today's students. Tomorrow's business professionals.

The official tagline is "Today's students. Tomorrow's business professionals." To ensure that there is clear communication of Business Professionals of America, the tagline must **always** appear with the logo on printed pieces. The tagline can be on one or two lines, depending upon the size and shape of the graphic piece. The size of the tagline cannot be smaller than 7 point.

For Ohio Association printed materials, **Ohio Association** is inserted between the logo and tagline. The red font for the state association is not mandatory.

Torch Awards Program

BPA's Torch Awards Program recognizes BPA members for community service and for leadership development activities. There are **nine** torches in **seven** activity divisions. The torches are **leadership, service, cooperation, knowledge, friendship, love, hope, faith, and patriotism**. There are four levels of awards.

Local Award	Executive	10 points in each category
Regional Award	Diplomat	30 points in each category
State Award	Statesman	50 points in each category
National Award	Ambassador	70 points in each category

Ohio BPA Website

The Ohio Association website is www.ohiobpa.org.

Scholarships

Ohio BPA provides four (4) \$1000 scholarships for its members. Any Ohio Association member who meets the posted application criteria can apply for an Ohio Association Scholarship. Members whose advisor is an Ohio ACTE Business and Information Technology division can apply for the BIT scholarship. The four scholarships are awarded at the State Leadership Conference in March.

General Information

- Ohio Association's 2014-2015 BPA membership was **approximately 7,900**.
- Business Professionals of America Week is February 8-12, 2016.